

May 14, 1999

Commissioner Jane E. Henney
Parklawn Building, RM 14-71
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

5328 '99 MAY 21 P2 04

RE: Use of Antibiotics for growth in cattle, hogs, and poultry

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I recently gave birth to a beautiful daughter in August of 1998. At the age of 5 months, she came down with an ear infection. As a breast fed baby, I did not anticipate the outcome of a simple ear infection three months later.

After forcing several different types of antibiotics down her throat, the infection not only didn't go away, it got worse. The result, I had to have my baby undergo surgery for ear tubes. This requires that she be put under with anesthesia. Once the ears were suctioned out and the tubes placed in her ears, the infection was gone. What were the antibiotics doing to her liver and kidneys all that time? They didn't help the infection at all. Now, every time she goes in for a bath or if I want to take her in the pool, she must wear ear protection from the water.

My husband and myself have also been infected with the flu and bronchitis over the past year. The result, we had to let take its course.

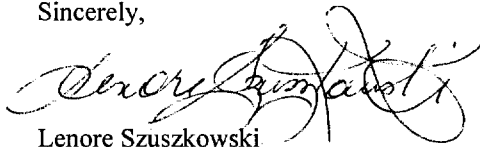
Could all this be the result of antibiotics being used in animal feed for growth? Maybe. Every time I go to the doctors office with a member of my family, we are repeatedly told the same thing, ANTIBIOTICS DON'T WORK on this type of infection. Could my daughters ears have been treated with antibiotics with no problem if I did not breast feed her, which is supposed to be the best food around. As we all know, breast feeding a baby gives them extra protection against infections, however, if I am eating meat with antibiotic feed, am I not also passing on the antibiotics also? What about the nine months of my pregnancy?

As a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, I urge you to save human lives by banning the use of medically useful antibiotics in animal feed so our doctors can treat infections without the risk of my family's lives.

I am in support of the petition filed by CSPI.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Lenore Szuszkowski
Stillwater, NJ

99P-0485

CH75



Szuskowski
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Newton NJ 07860-4120
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